Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee (SOCHUM)

Background Guide Topic:
Combatting Populist Nationalism
Director’s Note

Dear Delegates,

I would like to first of all thank all delegates who applied to the Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee at JMMUN this year. My name is Ayana Honda, and I am currently in my junior year of high school at Senzoku Gakuen. I am extremely excited to be a part of a conference filled with many talented delegates.

Last year I underwent my first experience as a Chair and not only did I come across the challenges that a Chair goes through, but I also re-acknowledged the difficulties of being a delegate. Delegates have to make speeches on the spot, present ideas outstandingly to the floor, negotiate with others, come up with effective solutions, and pay attention to the evolving dialogue, without which one’s research and preparation will never pay off. Some delegates do not hesitate to take active roles in the discussion, while other delegates are intimidated by the atmosphere. I am looking forward to extremely heated and eye-opening debate in this year’s Advanced committee, and I am happy to answer all questions and concerns from delegates in need of assistance, so please do not hesitate to come and speak to the dais.

The topic chosen for committee at this year’s conference is one the world has been confronting in recent years. We currently exist in a global climate in which national leaders are openly criticizing each other’s policies at international conferences, implementing sanctions more frequently than in the preceding years, and a polarizing nationalist-driven news cycle. This conference is a chance to face the issues plaguing the international community and to apply solutions that will actually stir reform. The Chairs hope that this guide will be of help over the course of getting to know more about the topic.

As Director of this committee, I am expecting a high-leveled debate and multi-faceted solutions from delegates. I sincerely hope that this will be a learning experience for all of you. I am looking forward to seeing you all there and to sharing a worthwhile experience with you.

Sincerely,

Ayana Honda, Director
United Nations Social, Cultural and Humanitarian Committee
Senzoku Gakuen Model United Nations Club
Japan Metropolitan Model United Nations 2019
Introduction to the Committee

The Social, Cultural, and Humanitarian Committee (SOCHUM) was established in 1945 as the third committee of the United Nations General Assembly. The General Assembly serves as the largest organ of the UN and proposes policies to the international community. SOCHUM has mainly focused its efforts on the protection and promotion of human rights. In 1948 the committee delivered the groundbreaking recommendations of a Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which drew praise from Eleanor Roosevelt and has become known as a Magna Carta for people worldwide. The committee’s mission centers on proposing resolutions and specific policies to the General Assembly that aim to realize world peace and security, covering topics ranging from gender equality to the refugee crisis. The third committee cooperates with committees and expert councils in the United Nations such as the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

Keys Terms and Concepts

Xenophobia
Xenophobia is a term used to designate reactions, behaviors, feelings or actions towards specific people who are identified as outsiders to a society, a community or a national identity. These responses toward particular people are provoked by unverified prejudice. Xenophobia must not be mixed up with racism; racism is an act of discrimination based on physical characteristics, whereas xenophobia emerges from an idea that someone is different from oneself.

Right-Wing Populism
Right-wing populism is a type of political approach or reaction to social changes that seek to uphold traditional or conservative values. Right-wing populists often seek to target minorities as well as the elites of their society. Right-wing populist movements often gain momentum by blaming a specific social group of people, blaming outside groups for exploiting or having a negative impact on the national economy. The targeted group gets treated as an outcast in their society and is demonized through unfounded theories, viewed and portrayed from biased perspectives by right-wing populists and their followers. Right-wing populist parties gradually obtain political authority by running for democratic office, especially when the wealthy are perceived as sharing a common ethnic or religious background that differs from the populist majority.

Neo-Nazism

2 “Xenophobia.” United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Education,
3 “What Is Right-Wing Populism?” Political Research Associates,
Neo-Nazism is the belief that encourages hatred towards Jews and support towards the ideology of Adolf Hitler and the Nazi Party in Germany. In addition to anti-semitism, Neo-Nazis also show hatred towards other minority groups such as LGBTQs, non-caucasian races, and sometimes Christians. There are a large number of Neo-Nazi groups active in Denmark, Germany, Norway, Iran, Spain, Taiwan, United States of America, and elsewhere around the globe.4

Islamophobia

Islamophobia is the exclusion or discrimination of Muslims as well as the prejudice that develops out of fear of Muslims. Islamophobia still causes an ongoing and radiating dispute in countries such as the UK and France. Segregation, abuses, and discriminatory behaviors have been increasing in recent years after September 11 attacks.5 With anti-Muslim hatred becoming more prevalent, “there is a real danger that such prejudice will further increase anti-Muslim hatred and start heating up an already growing number of acts of violence against the Muslim community”.6

Anti-Semitism

Anti-Semitism is the hostile belief or behavior towards Jewish people based on their religious identity. Anti-Semitism takes a form of religious fundamentalism, criticizing the Jewish people in terms of isolation or injuries which may also include stereotyped views of Jewish people. The Holocaust is the most extreme example of anti-Semitism: the enormous amount of European Jewish people executed, enacted by the Nazi Party and its collaborators, remains one of the most heinous crimes in human history.

Anti-Christian Persecution

Anti-Christian Persecution is the mistreatment of Christians.7 Currently, in nations where Christianity is the religious minority, Christians have been persecuted by such leaders and have become a universal conflict. Anti-Christian Persecution can be seen in countries such as North Korea and Afghanistan.

Irredentism

Irredentism refers to any political or mass movement intended to claim a territory on national, historical, or ethnic grounds. The importance in irredentism in international relations is the intersection between nationalism because irredentist claims to provoke ethnic conflicts and territorial aggression. One of the notable historical examples of irredentism is the dispute over Northern Ireland. In addition, the border

4 “Neo-Nazi.” Southern Poverty Law Center
5 Kuek Ser, Kuang Keng. “Data: Hate Crimes against Muslims Increased after 9/11.” PRI’s The World, 12 Sep. 2016,
6 ibid
7 McAlister, Laura. “7 Reasons Christianity Is the Most Persecuted Religion in the World.”
between North and South Korea is still an ongoing, recent irredentism.⁸

Statement of the Problem

Historical Context

Nationalism, the extreme form of patriotism or loyalty to one’s country, has rapidly developed in recent years as we have seen a shift in propaganda style and support bases. Nationalists tend to place the interests of their own country above other countries, propagating the belief that globalization is a potential threat and the notion that their political guidelines are the only possible way to achieve nation-serving goals, as well as working towards a self-governing state.

Nationalism is often the primary starter of destructive wars in human history. A significant example can be World War I. Due to the European countries’ national pride and attitude towards other nations’ cultural, economic, or military dominance, World War I devastated mainly Europe. On the basis of cultural superiority and national growth, the concept of irredentism, a mass movement of claiming another’s territory, increased.⁹

Furthermore, German nationalism — the struggle of German people with the belief of conservation rather than liberty resulted in an authoritarian and militarist state in the 19th century—Italian fascism, and corruption of Soviet empire in the 20th century all represents the progress of severity in nationalism and xenophobia.¹⁰

History has frequently taught the inherent danger of a charismatic populist leadership directing a nation towards a course of war.

Contemporary Context

With nationalist ideology shaping the current global politics, the rise of nationalism in the 21st century is influencing government policy in spheres such as migration, economic policy, religious acceptance, and cultural diversity, leading to unpredictable transformations and unstable situations.

Modern nationalist movements have intensified throughout Europe, the Middle East, and Asia, triggering actions such as Brexit, Islamic fundamentalism, the threat of ISIL, and the recent disruption of international trade relationships by the United States.

In the case of Brexit, spurred by the growing number of immigrants, the United Kingdom embraced nationalist rhetoric and announced their desire to leave the EU. Additionally, in Arab nations, a convergence of factors such as “the military background of the ruling forces, their fragile base of legitimacy, and the sweeping programmes of modernization and centralization they pursued” have intensified Islamic fundamentalism.

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⁸ Ambrosio, Thomas. “Irredentism.” Britannica.com,
⁹ “Nationalism as a Cause of World War I.” Alpha History,
¹⁰ “Nationalism: History.” Infoplease,
In the United States, President Trump campaigned on a populist platform that propelled him to the American presidency. He has since followed through with a nationalist agenda. With the withdrawal of the Paris agreement and imposition on trade tariffs imposed on China, the United States has deployed the nationalist policy propounded by President Donald Trump. The resulting uncertainty surrounding previously negotiated world-wide agreements has threatened the status quo and global stability through international disputes, especially economically as a means to construct nationalism.

The central causes of the spread in nationalism can in part be attributed to disproportionate global economic growth, resulting in increased inequality between the poor and the wealthy, as well as the increased number of immigrants, which has led many to fear or revolt against globalization and regionalization; how local populations fear the change in ethnic composition brought about by new populations.

Because of the massive increase in economic development, economic nationalism is employed to maintain complete sovereignty over the economy and production capacity, in order to establish “a broad public infrastructure programme to increase interstate connections and boost internal production and trade”. Nations are prioritizing their domestic industries rather than encouraging free trade and globally beneficial arrangements in order to strengthen the domestic economic capacity.¹¹

Along with the world-wide economic growth, the number of out-growing immigrants has caused the elimination of working environments for native people in some states, unable to provide the necessary standards for the country’s guidelines, is one of the major causes of nationalism. While an increment of number of immigrants effectively prove the decreasing unemployment rate, implementing immigration systems impacts the overall benefits to finance, indicating economic growth of 2.1% average.¹²

The rise of modern nationalism is a worldwide problem that threatens global cooperation and security. Populists seek to ensure complete sovereignty within a country, in order to maintain its power through political guidelines and beliefs that isolate it from international allies. Therefore, a leader with a nationalist mandate will feel entitled to breaking the laws of his or her own country as a nationalist has to maintain its superiority by distorting history. Additionally, thoughtful and responsive governance interferes with self-glorification, causing squashed internal reflection and external criticism.

¹² Furman, Jason. “Nationalism, Immigration, and Economic Success.” *Project Syndicate*, 18 July 2018
Current Situation

The current situations of populist nationalism are written below and are organized by geographical regions. Some countries are introduced in each section as examples of nations in which nationalists have recently been playing an active role in domestic politics. Propagations of nationalist ideas can result in the destruction of a full democracy. By comparing each region, numerous similarities can be observed in the characteristics of nationalist parties in each country. As can be seen in historical context also, populist groups tend to either scapegoat one particular ethnic, religious and political groups or excessively prioritize one specific ideological group in a form of discrimination.

Africa

African nationalist intention is to transform the identity of Africans. Many Africans categorize and identify themselves within their native ethnic group. African nationalists aim to change the Africans’ view of their own identity. At around the end of the 20th century, because a majority of the citizens had an ethnocentric mindset, there were many conflicts between the ethnic groups. The higher-class intellectuals were the main cause of the African nationalism. The white-elites lived a wealthier life than the African people, leading them to have a contrasting opinion about Africa’s leaders and the government. The white-elites strongly believed that the colonial state should hand over the power to them.14

On the other hand, those who were against the white-elites taking control, largely the indigenous black population, refused to adopt European values and its cultures. Edward Wilmot Blyden is one of the nationalists who took actions to enfeeble colonial control, and reform the native people’s view about their country and the culture. Because of these nationalist movements, currently, the African people still believe in their traditional religions and cultures and are not indoctrinated by other cultures.15

Southeast Asia

Indonesia

By the 17th century, the Dutch had begun invading Indonesia’s surrounding islands, aiming to gain work forces and natural resources. In the beginning of the 19th century, numerous groups formed in order to rebel against the Dutch, being the outset of Indonesian nationalism. “In 2014, Indonesia banned the export of metal ores to encourage the construction of smelters, arguing that too much wealth was shifting to refineries overseas.”

Furthermore, the Indonesian government announced in 2017 that the country will limit the export of coal. These restrictions

13 “Nationalism in Africa- Development of African Nationalism.” Science Encyclopedia,
14 Ibid
15 Ibid
were mainly proposed by the current president, Joko Widodo. The presidency of Joko was closely influenced by the idea of protectionism. He

**Philippines**

In the recent era, Philippines’ populism movement became active after Rodrigo Duterte became president in 2016. Duterte is known for his ostentatious performance as a populist. The president signed the free education law for one of the national universities in 2017. Critics of the measure state that although the Philippines cannot afford such subsidy for implementing this law, his excessive effort to meet the citizens’ needs will cause negative outcomes.

**Thailand**

In the present day, Islamophobia is growing in Thailand. Subsidies State Religion (CPBSR) was formed by a nationalist named Meedee Korn. In recent years, some monks are starting to not take Buddhism seriously, in act of showing illegal behavior. Additionally, according to The National Statistical Office, the number of Buddhists is decreasing in most areas of Thailand. This is primarily caused by the enlarging number of Muslims entering each regional area. A powerful group of Buddhists held a military movement in southern Thailand, also known as the Dhammakaya movement. The establishment of a strong military government led the Buddhists to raise their identity as a follower of the state religion. A nation made up of a single majority religion lends itself to susceptibility to populist nationalist movements and must safeguard against the persecution of minorities.

**Middle East**

**Saudi Arabia**

The Saudi Arabia nationalism has shifted from political stability to economic welfares. Since the royal family controls the nation

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16 Wongcha-um, Panu. “In Conflict-Hit Southern Thailand, Buddhist Nationalism Is on the Rise.” *Channel NewsAsia*, 18 June 2017,

17 “Thai Nationalism and the Rise of Buddhist Extremism.” *Sea Globe*, 11 Feb. 2016,

18 Wongcha-um, Panu. “In Conflict-Hit Southern Thailand, Buddhist Nationalism Is on the Rise.” *Channel NewsAsia*, 18 June 2017,

19 *ibid*

20 “Thai Nationalism and the Rise of Buddhist Extremism.” *Sea Globe*, 11 Feb. 2016,
with their enormous amount of power, the royal family has grown too large and is divided to justify the cost of maintaining its unity. The royal family has been dominating the economy as over 50% of Saudi gross domestic product is protected by the elite private sectors. Due to this, the entire population argues that there are no positive benefits on them, instead only negative externalities. Prince Khalid bin Farhan al-Saud, a dissident member of the extended family living in Germany claims that “the people have less money than before, but the royal family have the same”, and “there is a lot of state money which is concealed from the budget, which is determined by the king alone”.

The citizens were offered economic security in exchange for loyalty- “an arrangement institutionalized through a patronage network of high-paying public-sector jobs and a broad array of generous welfare benefits and consumer subsidies”.

As a result, more than 75% of the Saudi citizens work for the nation, and the rest of the budget is spent on social support.

Saudi Arabia, famously known for the abundant amount of petroleum, provides an adequate money only for the royal family. While the per capita venue from oil exports being 5000 dollars a year which is very high, the gasoline prices is sustained and low which indicates that the royal family fortune derives from the reserves of petroleum.

The problem of Saudi Arabia’s approach is the delay of raising labor productivity. Because its populist fervor aligns with his purges of elites and neutralization of any serious opposition, foreign and state-controlled firms could replace the notables in delivering necessary private services and the balance of payments could be stabilized with lower consumption, particularly that of the royals and the rich, and imports.

Moreover, due to wide budget gaps, the nation has been borrowing by billions not only home but also abroad, starting from 2016 as well as cutting public sector-pay along with gasoline and electricity. This causes a pain in the royal family, leading to the future collapse of economy as the low price of oil cannot be sustained in the years from now.

**Turkey**

The political leaders and the Turkish public are embroiled in many controversies. The citizens supporting the parliamentary majority of the presidents’ Justice and Development Party, AKP, declare independence and accepting Turkey’s ideologies rather than focusing on foreign policies. On the other hand, the citizens supporting a group of Republican People’s Party, CHP argue the opposite. For example, President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has established hostility towards the U.S. as well as Europe; especially towards Germany. According to the CAP poll, 83% of the

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22 Diwan, Ishac. “Saudi Arabia’s Populist Temptation.” *Barron’s*, 18 Nov. 2017
population are not in favor of the U.S. and 73% are not in favor of Europe. Bitterness towards Syrian refugees and immigrants entering Turkey are continuous and widespread feuds. Moreover, the disagreement of whether the country is secular or Islamic remains a central role in Turkey. As a result, Turkey seeks autonomous isolation from the global elites rather than international cooperation.

Iran

The ongoing debate of Iranians’ identity features two groups: the Persians and the Islamists. Iranian nationalist often strongly believe that Iranians were humiliated as a result of the Arab-Muslim conquest of Iran in the 7th century and glorify Iran’s pre-Islamic civilization. On the other hand, the conservative elites who dominate the establishment consider this circumstance as contentious due to the fact that Prophet Muhammad was an Arab. The new emphasis is highly controversial because of the focus of many Iranian nationalists on pre-Islamic past and the tendency to characterize Islam as a foreign religion imposed on surrounding Arab countries.

23 Through the years from 2005 to 2013, the presidency of Mahmoud Ahmadinejad continued to show support towards religious nationalism, “promoting Iranian-Islamic identity as a new discourse.”


25 Ibid

However, in 2013, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad left the office, the ideology of religious nationalism greatly diminished by the number of adherents although the ideology has not completely vanished. The movement to celebrate the birth of King Cyrus the Great on October 28 gains momentum and becomes larger year by year, indicating the rising hostility towards the establishment.

Syria

Syrian nationalism has a strong inclination toward irredentism. The placement of national boundaries represents a pivotal part of nationalist rhetoric, perhaps, rooted in the country’s territorial dispute with Turkey over the Hatay Province. In 1939, Turkey legally retained the Hatay Province which the Syrian government never realized since the Syrian maps illustrate the Syria-Turkey border as a temporary border. Syrian enmity
towards Turkey has never ceased. Beyond redrawing the Turkish border, many Syrians support the establishment (restoration, according to their viewpoint) of a Greater Syria that includes Lebanon, Jordan, as well as sees Israel or Palestine. To avoid such pan-Arab plans from contradicting Syrian nationalism, Greater Syria advocates suggest Syria the nation will serve as the hub of Greater Syria. This perspective emphasizes the common cultural heritages of the Arabs as well as feeling patriotism for their autonomous ideology.

Israel

Jewish nationalism, Zionism, which claims the reestablishment of a Jewish state in the Land of Israel, the homeland of the Jewish people as a means of believing that Judaism is a nationality as well as religious and Jews deserve their own territory in their homeland. Although Zionists all acquiesce to the existence of Israel, they struggle on forming a rightful government. While the Zionist left typically believe in peace with Arab nations with a secular and economy-based government, the Zionists right acknowledge a skeptical issue in the land for peace deal and feel comfortable mixing religion and politics. Due to the belief of proving privileges only to the Jews, Arabs and Palestinians strongly oppose Zionism.26

Israeli settlers in disputed territories, West Bank and Gaza Strip is an example that proves Zionism. According to the Israeli settlement watchdog Peace Now, there are 131 settlements built without official authorization in West Bank with 385,000 housings, and 97 outposts. The settlements in Gaza Strip has dismantled in 2005 since it withdrew from the territory. Settlers choose themselves whether to live in these communities for several reasons such as economic and religious reasons. These settlements are contentious because Palestine argues in their freedom of movement; on the other hand, Israel claims that Palestinians are using the issue of settlements in order to avoid direct talks.

European Union

Hungary

Viktor Orbán, the leader of the Fidesz party, was elected as Prime Minister for the third time in April 2018. In his campaign, Orbán blamed the overflow of migrants as the causes of the EU destruction. Orbán’s accusations of migrants entering Hungary have become increasingly sharp over the past few years, including his attempt to block migrants by building a wall along the southern national borders. Hungarian opinions appear sympathetic to Orbán’s point of view. In a recent poll, only ten percent of Hungarians answered that they feel “totally comfortable” with accepting refugees compared to fifty-five percent who answered that they feel “uncomfortable”

26 “What Is Zionism?.” Vox

with it\(^{28}\). Furthermore, eighty-six percent of the population do not have acquaintances who are immigrants\(^ {29}\), which supports the contention that Hungarians are very reluctant to accept refugees. Moreover, Orbán’s criticisms against several targeted politicians show a sign of a communist society, and Orbán’s election campaigns galvanized far-right activists\(^ {30}\), causing immigrants to feel uneasy in their daily life.

**Germany**

In the most recent election in Germany, despite Angela Merkel’s fourth victory, the results suggested that a quarter of the voters supported populist parties\(^ {31}\). Alternative for Germany (AfD), a far-right party, received twelve percent of the vote in the parliament election in 2017 fall, drawing support from the eastern part of the country and entering the parliament for the first time\(^ {32}\). AfD started out in 2013 as a political party opposed to euro policy and were especially dissatisfied with Merkel’s tax policies in the European Union. However, the group has recently become xenophobic, according to the party’s first leader, who has since left the party. AfD now rejects immigrants, not accepting them as German citizens, and has commented that German police may have to shoot immigrants in necessary circumstances. Furthermore, members of AfD has been downplaying the Nazis’ actions during World War II, mentioning them as just a small part of Germany’s long successful history.\(^ {33}\) This clearly presents their scarce understanding towards sustainable world harmony.

Meanwhile, Chancellor Angela Merkel is attempting to keep the right-wing parties under control, as she mentioned at the World Economic Forum in 2018 January at Davos, and stressed that judging others without a dialogue is a clear step towards right-wing populism, calling right-wing populism “a poison”.

**France**

In France, several violent incidents have suggested over the past few years that anti-Semitic and anti-Muslim\(^ {34}\) sentiments are on the rise in the country. While Marie Le Pen, the leader of Front National or National Rally, emphasizes that her insistence not to accept any more refugees in France is not a sign of racism, extreme supporters of the


\(^{29}\) “Integration of Immigrants in the European Union.” *European Commision*, 30 Oct. 2017

\(^{30}\) Walker, Shaun. “‘A Useful Punching Bag’: Why Hungary’s Viktor Orbán Has Turned on George Soros.” *The Guardian*, 22 June 2017


\(^{32}\) ibid

\(^{33}\) Woody, Christopher. “German Far-Right Leader Compared the Nazi Era to ‘aSpeck of Bird S---’ on German History, Triggering a Massive Backlash.” *Business Insider*, 4 June 2018

party have been implementing violent attacks on specific groups of people. One example is Generation Identitaire, a political group with multicultural branches that is popular among youths. Although this group dislikes being called nationalists, its supporters clearly do not welcome immigrants entering its country and strongly opposes EU policies. While Marie Le Pen lost the presidential election in 2017 therefore failing to make further progress in enacting anti-immigrant policies, anti-Semitic and anti-Islamic riots carried out by extreme right-wing and left-wing supporters hint at a dark future for Jewish and Muslim immigrants living in France. Moreover, with numerous terrorist attacks being carried out by immigrants, further conflicts between adherents and opponents of anti-immigrant policies are expected to grow in the foreseeable future.

Poland

Right-wing populists in Poland are mainly being drawn from the ranks of the nation’s Catholics; thus, Polish nationalists have strong religious affinities. While race and religion are no longer the primary focus of Polish nationalists, anti-Semitism remains a significant focus of its fringe groups, and anti-Semitic ideas still exist within those who support groups like the National Radical Camp and All Polish Youth. Furthermore, right-wing politicians who belong to the national parliament continue to make discriminatory comments based on individual’s sexual, religious or ethnic identity, limiting their access to education and accusing them of provoking social issue. Some politicians, seeing the rise in neo-Nazism, anti-Semitism, and related movements, have begun to make a move against extreme nationalists; for example, attempting to delegalize extreme right-wing and left-wing organizations.

Austria

As in other Central European countries, right-wing populists are gaining power in Austria. In the 2017 parliamentary election, after claiming nearly 58% of the votes, the far-right party Freedom Party of Austria were able to form a coalition government with the conservative People’s party in December 2017. The establishment of a coalition government between a conservative and a right-wing government meant the start of a tenuous relationship with immigrants and a closer diplomatic ties with Russia. The EU remained silent on the formation of an extreme nationalist cabinet), unlike in 2000 when they imposed sanctions on the Austrian government that welcomed the FPÖ. This inaction suggests that Europe has entered an era when the EU is reluctant to challenge nationalist and populist governments due to the power they hold power in many countries. The lack of reprimand may have emboldened nationalist leaders. Chancellor Sebastian Kurz recently shut down seven mosques in the country and was criticized by the Turkish government for taking an anti-Islamic action. As a response, Kurz stated that Muslim groups which he recognized as a political threat have “no place in [his] country” (

United Kingdom
The United Kingdom’s June 2016 referendum on whether to leave or remain in the European Union resulted in 51.9% of the turnout voting to leave while 48.1% voted to remain.35 If all goes as planned, the UK will leave the EU on 29 March 2019. Although the Prime Minister, Theresa May, mentioned in her speech that Brexit aims to “strengthen [Britain’s] union of nations and [Britain’s] union of people”36, there have been many concerns about Brexit stirring acts of discrimination against religions and cultures. The official campaign claimed that the UK must quit the EU in order to detach itself from Europe’s economic slowdown, especially to regain control over its national border which was strongly connected with concerns about the increasing number of immigrants annually entering their country. Brexit campaigners alleged that due to the EU’s legal restrictions, public services are being overtaken by refugees in its domestic territory and they hoped to see new national laws established after withdrawing from the EU’s institutional regulations. According to a survey carried out by the National Union of Students, one third of Muslim students had experienced a type of abuse or crime in the course of their studies with 79% of those claiming that their experience was due to Islamophobic prejudices.37 Reports of racist graffiti and comments have been made repeatedly following the Brexit vote, and researchers conclude that there is a strong connection between xenophobia and Brexit.

North America

Canada

There are predominantly two types of Nationalism in Canada; the Canadian nationalism and Quebec nationalism. Many Canadian citizens strongly highlight a strong regional and racial dependence as well as a positive inclination towards the North American culture despite their loyalty towards their home country and its people. The English-speakers in Canada are the citizens who are the Canadian nationalism supporters, whereas the French-speakers in Quebec are the citizens who support Quebec nationalism.

One example of Quebec nationalism incident was in 2017 at Quebec city; mosque was attacked by the far-right extremists aiming to exclude Muslims.

United States of America

America was said to be a multicultural society, even before the United States Declaration of Independence. On the other hand, there were opinions supporting nationalism. An example is the discrimination against the Native Americans and African Americans.38 The 2016 election of Donald Trump was seen as a validation of American populist nationalism. The Trump campaign’s slogan,

35 “EU Referendum Results.” BBC News
36 Partnership with the European Union.” GOV.UK, 2 March 2018
"Make America Great Again," suggested a rollback to a white-dominated society, a vision which appealed to white working-class voters. The Trump administration has followed up on that slogan with strict policies on immigration, such as travel bans, a call for a border wall and child separation practices, all aimed at discouraging immigration. The Trump administration has further pursued an "America First" strategy that aims to undo international agreements in favor of protectionist policies. Inferring from his famous saying, “Make America great again”, Trump’s nationalist actions influenced many citizens including the majority of the white working-class. Instead of working to support other countries, Trump will do anything for the United States to gain benefit even if it involves exerting negative influence on other countries. For instance, he ended the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement right after he became president. Moreover, he applied additional customs duty especially for Chinese and Japanese products for the purpose of protecting domestic industry and indigenous workers.

South America

Brazil

In 2002, Lula was elected as president of Brazil with 61.3% of the turnouts due to the citizens’ attraction to his Brazilian identity. After he became president, Lula actively started building close relationships with countries that are in a negative relationship with the United States. By doing so, he succeeded in building a correlation with other nationalist countries. Recent nationalism in Brazil is closely related to oil industries and its revenues. In 2009 in Rio De Janeiro, Lula publicized a plan to control the underwater reserves of the Santos Basin, aiming to nationalize the oil incomes within the nation.

Costa Rica

Costa Rica is often described as the “Switzerland of the Americas” due to the limited number of conflicts in its history. However, currently the Costa Rican government is facing a rising tide of anti-immigrant sentiment. Some immigrants who have recently enter the Costa Rican borders have been implicated in crimes and troubles which threaten the region’s peace.

These negative impacts of the immigrants are provoking to Costa Rican nationalists who call for a ban the immigrants from entering the country.

Oceania

Australia

39 “BRICs 徹底分析 ~ブラジル編 その 5. ルーラ大統領とブラジル・ナショナリズム.” 18 Aug. 2010
42 ibid
In 1788, the British people sailed into Sydney Cove to settle in the New South Wales region. The British settlers brought their culture and had a strong British identity. The settlers’ intention was for the region to adopt their culture and make a replication of the British society.43 While the British was encroaching into South Wales’ land with their culture and beliefs, the aboriginal Australians, who were very loyal to their colony, were against the British invasion. Nationalism in Australia started in the 19th century, when the British nationalism and Australian nationalism began to differentiate. During the 1850s, the Australians ultimately gained their right to govern, a step towards their independence from Britain. Currently, in Australia, nations to acknowledge the sources they can use when confronting this problem.

The resolution encouraged nations to provide training for the police and other law enforcement on the movements of the extremist groups whose advocacy contributes to racist and xenophobic violence. This system will force extremist groups to limit their actions connecting to the decrease of xenophobia and racism inside of the country; however, countries will need to be financially stable in order to introduce the system.

Addressing the roots of extremist groups through education, awareness raising, and the promotion of dialogue is enforced through the resolution. Acknowledging the roots of extremist groups has the possibility of preventing the joining of additional people, keeping in mind that many young people join without researching deeply on the extremist group.

The acknowledgment in the role of programs in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization can become convenient in such areas. Support from other committees will lead to an earlier stop to the problem compared to the committee combating the problem alone.

In addition, there is an importance to have the civil society and other relevant stakeholders to use all opportunities especially the internet and social media as a source to decrease the amount of discrimination on the lines of racial superiority or hatred, and to spread ideas on equality and basic human rights. Social media is a source that has enough power to spread information out to many nations in a short amount of time; therefore, by

43 “Nationalism in Australia.” skwirk,
spreading information on social media the message will spread to many despite the outcome.\textsuperscript{44}

\textbf{Actions concerning the neo-Nazis}

The UN has been feeling great concern towards the number of victims who suffer from racism, xenophobia, and related intolerance by neo-Nazi groups. In addition to the victims, the UN feels a sense of crisis due to the increase of extremist political including neo-Nazis and skinhead groups; therefore, racist and discriminatory bills or political ideas have been spread. In order to minimize the actions such groups can take the UN has emphasized the importance in the usage of social media and the need in more study.

The UN noted the role social media can play in the action of eliminating racial discrimination and xenophobia by expressing diversity and a multicultural society through articles and the news. As mentioned before, social media has a significant influence on society. By expressing diversity through social media there is a high chance that a majority of people will be influenced by the message.

The resolution put importance on the necessity of building strong connection on a regional and international level in order to counter all manifestations of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia. Through the connection nations will combat internationally and educate citizens through cultural diversity on xenophobia and racism.

\textsuperscript{44} "Resolution Adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2017." \textit{United Nations}, 29 Jan. 2018

It enforces the need for governments and nongovernmental organizations to acknowledge this problem and take action as a whole. The cooperation of governmental and nongovernmental organizations is necessary in any kind of situation.

\textbf{Protection of religious beliefs and human rights}

Since nationalist groups attack minoritized religions and completely ignore their individual human rights, including attacks towards shrines and other sacred places. The UN has emphasized the importance to consider that all religions and should be respected and guaranteed by emphasizing the need of education and not have people judge others through political and religious belief.\textsuperscript{45}

\textbf{Cultural Diversity}

The pursuit of cultural development contributed by numerous people and nations has led to the enrichment of cultural life and a promotion to basic human rights. By engraining with the development of culture on a national level will lead to the exchanging of knowledge and moral achievements. This is can be shown through the positive influence the enrichment of human culture has shown. Further understanding will lead to positive connections between nations.

Further studies on how culture diversity contributes in fostering international solidarity among nations will decrease the possibility of a nationalist

\textsuperscript{45} ibid
becoming prime minister of a nation and allows nations to structure on an international level.

Promotion from all corporations including non-governmental ones towards cultural diversity will advance the objects of peace and universally accepted human rights. If all corporations agree to this, the importance and acceptance of human rights will spread to nations resulting in less discrimination inside of the country.

There is an importance to have relevant organizations, and nongovernmental organizations to support intercultural initiatives on human rights, in order to promote human rights; connected to enriching universality.46

**Questions to Consider**

How could a nation limit hate speech without threatening the freedom of speech?

How could the UN encourage people to recognize themselves as global citizens rather than national citizens?

To what degree is a nation allowed to prioritize national goals and profits?

Is the media playing a less vital role in today’s world? Is it not doing enough to deliver the correct information to a country’s citizens?

Recently, national leaders have begun to get rid of terms of office. Is this acceptable?

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46 ibid

**Tips and Advice from Chairs**

Since this is an advanced committee, we are sure that the all of you will have done an overwhelming amount of research by the actual conference, and that most of you already know what websites to rely on and not to rely on. The sole advice we can give you regarding research is to at least, even if some of you may not have time to go into extreme depth, grasp the general situation of your country. While usually in Model UN, a government would have a consistent idea and policies regarding the topic, the topic for this committee is about the people and also the issues inside the government. Please be careful to not misunderstand the true demands of your nation’s citizens, and what policies would be the most profitable for your nation.

For those of you entering an advanced committee for the first time, the Chairs would like to note that the first few hours may be a hard time for you. Many delegates will be talented orators who even the Chairs will be unable to refute, and many will be powerful leaders who can overturn arguments with a single statement. However, we encourage all delegates to definitely speak up frequently during discussions, both in moderated and unmoderated caucuses. Working with the most interesting and amazing delegates in Japan will surely be an experience that you can be proud of. We will always try to call on those feeling too nervous to come up onto the stage, but how much you get involved in the discussion depends on you.
Whether this conference will be an ordinary or lifetime experience for you solely rests upon you. We will be expecting high-level debate, research and solutions, and are waiting to see the best effort you can make to make JMMUN 2019 an extraordinarily exciting one!

Works Cited


Walker, Shaun. Interview by Mary Louise Kelly. “Why European Countries Are


